

What is claimed is:

1. A device for aiding in the correction of spondylolisthesis from the lateral approach, comprising a first insertion member for lateral insertion into a first vertebra, a second insertion member for lateral insertion into a second vertebra, the second vertebra being adjacent to and in a spondylosed relationship with the first vertebra, and a connecting member linking the first and second insertion members wherein the connecting member is adapted to be rotated to rotate the first and second vertebrae relative to one another.
2. The device of claim 1 wherein the insertion members are bone screws.
3. The device of claim 2 wherein the bone screws are bi-cortical.
4. The device of claim 2 wherein the bone screws are uni-cortical.
5. The device of claim 1 wherein the connecting member is a rod.
6. The device of claim 1 further comprising a rotatable wrench for rotating the rod.
7. A device for aiding in the correction of spondylolisthesis from the lateral approach, comprising a first bone screw for lateral insertion into a first vertebra, a second bone screw for lateral insertion into a second vertebra, and a rod connecting the first and second bone screws wherein the rod is adapted to receive a surgical tool to rotate the rod thereby rotating the first and second vertebrae relative to one another.
8. The device of claim 7 wherein the bone screws are formed of PEEK.
9. The device of claim 7 wherein the bone screws are formed of a resorbable material.
10. The device of claim 7 wherein the bone screws are formed of titanium.

11. The device of claim 7 wherein the rod includes at least one notch for receiving a corresponding portion of the surgical tool.

12. A method for correcting spondylolisthesis from a lateral approach, comprising:

removing an intervertebral disc to define an intervertebral space between a first vertebra and a second vertebra, the first and second vertebrae being in a spondylosed relationship to one another;

laterally inserting a first insertion member into the first vertebra;

laterally inserting a second insertion member into the second vertebra;

engaging a connecting member with the first and second insertion members to span the connecting member between the first and second vertebrae; and

applying a rotating force to the connecting member to rotate the first and second vertebrae relative to one another.

13. The method of claim 12 further comprising preparing the first and second vertebrae for receiving a prosthetic joint and inserting the prosthetic joint into the intervertebral space.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the first and second vertebrae are prepared by laterally forming slots in the first and second vertebrae.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the slot formed in the first vertebra is offset from the slot formed in the second vertebra.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein the prosthetic joint comprises offset, laterally-extending keels for fitting to the slots formed in the first and second vertebrae.

17. The method of claim 12 wherein the insertion members are bone screws.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the bone screws are bi-cortical.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein the bone screws are uni-cortical.
20. The method of claim 12 wherein the connecting member is a rod.
21. The method of claim 12 wherein the rotating force is applied via a rotatable wrench.